

**ANIMAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE**

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PRIMARY: Clemson University Livestock-Poultry Health

SUPPORT: Clemson University Cooperative Extension Service and Regulatory and Public Service Programs; Clemson Experiment Station; SC Association of Veterinarians; SC Animal Care and Control Association; Department of Agriculture; Department of Health and Environmental Control; Department of Natural Resources, Wildlife and Fresh Water Fisheries; SC Forestry Commission; SC Nursery and Landscape Association; SC Certified Crop Advisors

**I. INTRODUCTION**

Animal Emergency Response consists of two components:

**A. Animals Emergencies:**

1. An emergency or disaster may adversely affect both the multi-billion dollar agricultural livestock-poultry industry in South Carolina, and the multi-billion dollar pet industry in the state. Lives of animals may be threatened, as well as the disruption of evacuation, or the interruption/destruction of the various businesses involving animals.
2. Because estimates indicate that more than 60% of households have a pet, not counting the hundreds of thousands who have livestock/horses, it is critical that animal emergency plans are developed which coordinate with plans for human emergency response, in order to facilitate, and not disrupt, human emergency response.
3. Natural disasters, as well as man-made disasters, may negatively impact the various animal industries/pet population. Naturally introduced or intentionally introduced (bioterrorist) disease may threaten the animal, or zoonotic disease may threaten public health as well as animal health.
4. Efficient response and recovery efforts assure rapid return to economic soundness of the livestock/pet industry, public health protection, as well as the benefit of the human-animal bond of pets in the human recovery process following a disaster.

B. Plant (Crop) Emergencies

1. An emergency or disaster may adversely affect the multi-billion dollar agricultural plant/crop industry in South Carolina.
2. Substantial damage to plants/crops would have significant and long-lasting negative impacts on the state's economy through disruption of food supply, trade, and tourism.
3. Natural disasters, as well as man-made disasters, may negatively impact crops. Naturally introduced or intentionally introduced (bioterrorist) disease may threaten plants and agriculture, and agricultural disease may threaten public health as well as plant health.
4. Efficient response and recovery efforts assure rapid return to economic soundness of the agronomic and horticultural crops industry; and public health protection recovery process following a disaster.

II. **MISSION**

To provide animal and plant emergency management and response throughout South Carolina, before, during, and after disasters.

III. **CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS**

- A. Clemson University Livestock-Poultry Health (CULPH) is responsible for the coordination of all ESF-17 administrative, management, planning, training, preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery activities to include developing, coordinating, and maintaining ESF-17 Standard Operating Procedures. All ESF-17 supporting agencies will assist CULPH in the planning and execution of the above. All ESF-17 personnel will be trained on the principles of the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and Incident Command and integrate those principles into all ESF-17 planning and response operations.
- B. Critical ESF 17 functions include, but are not limited to developing:
  1. Veterinary medical care and plant health programs at all levels (local, state, national) as necessary to protect animal health, the animal and plant industries, and public health.
  2. A backup support service at a local and state level to assist animal owners when necessary in protecting and caring for their animals during and after disaster.

3. Maintain and prioritize lists of plant and animal pests/diseases of national and jurisdictional significance.
  4. A public information program enabling the majority of animal owners and possessors of agricultural resources to develop and carry out their own individual emergency response plans under most circumstances.
  5. Plans dealing with the threat of bioterrorist attack consistent with overall efforts of homeland defense to include an outbreak of a highly infective exotic animal and/or plant disease, or an economically devastating plant pest infestation.
  6. Plans to coordinate animal and agricultural related data during and after emergency response.
- C. Under the general coordination of CULPH, appropriate agencies/groups will provide assistance to animal owners and agricultural entities throughout the state in order to provide maximum safety, medical care and to assist in public health protection for the state. Each agency/organization will operate under its mandated federal, state, or organizational regulations and will maintain complete administrative and financial control over their activities. The South Carolina Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners, in coordination with DHEC, will arrange to secure temporary licensing for emergency veterinarians invited from out of state to assist in disaster response.
- D. In coordination with, and in support of, the State Assessment Team (SAT), ESF-17 will assess the situation (both pre- and post-event), and in coordination with local emergency management officials, develop strategies to respond to the emergency.
- E. As the primary coordinating agency, Clemson University Livestock Poultry and Health will gather information from support agencies and other plant and animal related organizations throughout the state concerning their level of preparedness, and level of risk in the face of various emergencies. With appropriate feedback from local and county representatives, ESF-17 will compile a status report, which will be provided to the SEOC and the represented organizations/agencies of ESF-17.
- F. CULPH, in partnership with the South Carolina Association of Veterinarians (SCAV), the SC Animal Care and Control Association (SCACCA), and the American Red Cross (ARC) will coordinate pet evacuation, sheltering, rescue, medical care and disposition. CULPH will

develop memoranda of understanding (MOUs) with the above associations and any other appropriate organizations.

- G. CULPH, in coordination with Clemson University Cooperative Extension Services (CUCES), and the SC Department of Agriculture, will oversee equine, livestock and poultry emergency response. CULPH will develop MOUs with appropriate livestock related organizations such as the South Carolina Horsemen's Council, the SC Cattlemen's Association, etc.
- H. CULPH, in coordination with SC Department of Agriculture and SC DHEC will oversee public health and zoonotic disease issues, including disposal.
- I. The coordination of plant/crop emergency response activities is the responsibility of Clemson University Regulatory and Public Service Programs (RPSP). RPSP will develop MOUs with appropriate plant/crop related organizations, such as SC Fertilizer and Agrichemicals Association, SC Seedsmen's Association, and the SC Farm Bureau.
- J. CULPH delegates the coordination of native wildlife emergency response to the SC Department of Natural Resources.
- K. CULPH, in coordination with appropriate support agencies, will provide limited assistance, if available, to exotic animal owners in case of emergency. Exotic animal owners are urged to maintain full preparation and response capabilities, as specialty facilities for their animals may not be available through CULPH and regular support channels.
- L. The SEOC will be the point of contact for all requests for plant and animal related assistance. CULPH and ESF-17 support agency personnel will staff the Animal Emergency Response support function in the SEOC.
- M. General Services Division, State Budget and Control Board, will manage donated materials in accordance with Annex 18, South Carolina Emergency Operations Plan.
- N. All agencies are encouraged to maintain their own emergency funds for basic emergency preparedness. In the event of a major disaster, Clemson University Foundation will manage a central state emergency fund for donated monies, to be managed by Clemson representatives under the guidance of an advisory board made up of selected representatives from SC Animal Care and Control Association, SC Association of Veterinarians, Clemson University Livestock Poultry and Health, Clemson University Cooperative Extension Service, and the South Carolina Horsemen's Council.

#### IV. ESF ACTIONS

##### A. Preparedness

1. Develop plans for the protection of animal and plant health and security, including the response to an outbreak of a highly contagious animal/zoonotic disease, an outbreak of a highly infective exotic plant disease or an economically devastating plant pest infestation whether accidentally or intentionally introduced.
2. Develop plans for the safety of livestock, poultry, companion animals, prior, during and after a natural or manmade event.
3. Develop plans for the protection of animal health to include ensuring the safety of the manufacture and distribution of foods and distribution of drugs given to livestock and companion animals.
4. Develop a training program for county animal and agriculture emergency coordinators and other interested persons.
5. Release information annually on disease and disaster planning and safety for animals and plants/crops through news releases, brochures, or websites.
6. Develop and maintain a database of all county animal and agriculture emergency plans and a list of all county animal and agriculture emergency coordinators.
7. Develop and maintain and regularly update lists or databases of emergency animal shelters and confinement areas for South Carolina, (including shelter companion, large, zoo and exotic animals) as provided by county animal and agriculture emergency coordinators, and for other states as needed. The database will include personnel and resource information.
8. When feasible, ESF-17 will assist county animal emergency coordinators in identifying suitable facilities for shelters and confinement areas.
9. Develop and maintain a database of medical and non-medical volunteers and agencies that will provide care assistance.
10. Coordinate with ESF-18 for animal and agricultural related donated goods.

11. Participate in state exercises and conduct, at least annually, an ESF-17 exercise to validate this annex and supporting SOPs.
12. Annually review the Department of Homeland Security Universal Task List and integrate tasks as appropriate.
13. Ensure all ESF-17 personnel integrate NIMS and Incident Command principles in all planning. All ESF personnel will complete all required NIMS training, as outlined in the 2006 Department of Homeland Security (DHS) training guidance.
14. Implement systems that communicate public health threat of animal, plant and food issues.

B. Response

1. Track the activities of animal shelter facilities and confinement areas identified before, during, and after the disaster. This tracking will be based on information provided by the county animal emergency coordinator.
2. Coordinate and manage an animal or plant disease outbreak or incident that would affect animal or plant health.
3. Provide for inspection and assessment of food and animal processing facilities and products storage related food protection units in order to protect public health.
4. Provide consultation and coordinate response for animal and agricultural issues which impact animal, plant, or public health (disease outbreak, bioterrorist attack, waste and carcass disposal); take reasonable measures to protect animals under emergency care from disease and injury.
5. Provide animal safety through coordination of additional emergency animal sheltering and stabling for both large and small animals, rescue and transportation to shelter.
6. Coordinate triage and follow-up medical care for animals.
7. Coordinate public information through ESF-15.
8. Track the activities, data and statistics from activated agencies before, during, and after the disaster. This information will be summarized for situation reports to ESF-5 and captured for final compilation.

9. Coordinate with ESF-7 regarding storage sites and staging areas for animal food and medical supplies.
10. Organize and manage agricultural response donations in coordination with ESF-18.
11. Coordinate eradication, crop destruction, and animal depopulation operations including support of other ESFs, including ESF-13 and ESF-19.
12. Coordinate with ESF-1, ESF-3, and ESF-8 for the removal and proper disposal of contaminated plants, animal waste, and dead animals.
13. Decontaminate, identify and tag dead animals. Properly collect, identify, and label diseased/contaminated plants or plant pests.
14. Coordinate the assignment of relief personnel.
15. Coordinate Veterinarian Medical Assistance Team (VMAT) and other support group assistance.

C. Recovery

1. Continue response activities, as required.
2. Coordinate damage assessment through the County Animal and Agriculture Emergency Coordinator.
3. Continue to coordinate the assignment of relief personnel and the distribution of supplies from supply areas or staging areas.
4. Coordinate the consolidation of closing of animal shelters or confinement areas, personnel and supplies as the need diminishes.
5. Coordinate repopulation of animals or reestablishment of plants into recovered area.
6. Coordinate the phase-down of animal or plant emergency services through various support agencies, and within framework of EOC and ESF guidelines.
7. Organize and publicize lost and found data to achieve animal/owner reunion. Coordinate final return to owner, long-term maintenance, placement or disposition of animals which cannot be

returned to their normal habitat or which have been separated from their owners.

8. Continue to coordinate animal medical services, as needed.
9. Coordinate with ESF-1, ESF-3, and ESF-8 for the removal and proper disposal of animal waste and dead animals.
10. ESF-17, with support agencies, will provide a reasonable level of assistance and care for livestock and animals impacted by disaster.
11. Ensure ESF-17 team members or their agencies maintain appropriate records of costs incurred during the event.
12. Ensure donated goods are handled through ESF-18 with appropriate guidance from ESF-17.
13. Coordinate eradication, crop destruction, and animal depopulation operations including support of other ESFs, including ESF-13 and ESF-19.

D. Mitigation

1. Support and plan for mitigation measures.
2. Support requests and directives resulting from the Governor and/or FEMA concerning mitigation and/or re-development activities.
3. Document matters that may be needed for inclusion in agency or state/federal briefings, situation reports and action plans.

V. **RESPONSIBILITIES**

A. Clemson University

1. Clemson University Livestock-Poultry and Health
  - a. Preparedness and Mitigation
    - 1). Identify, train, and assign personnel to staff ESF-17 in the SEOC.
    - 2). Develop operating procedures to implement the Animal Emergency Response functions of ESF-17, including an alerting list of CULPH and ESF-17 support agency response teams for the EOC.



- 3). Protect animal health through coordination of animal disease prevention, surveillance (to include tracking animal movement), diagnostics, and eradication consistent with agency mission.
- 4). Under direction of CULPH, serve as primary contact in coordinating pet care/sheltering activation in emergencies.
- 5). Develop plans to respond to the outbreak of a highly contagious animal/zoonotic disease.
- 6). Develop plans for the security of livestock and poultry.
- 7). Develop plans for the safety of livestock, poultry and companion animals prior, during and after a natural or man-made event.
- 8). Develop plans for ensuring the safety of the manufacture and distribution of foods and distribution of drugs given to livestock and companion animals.
- 9). Participate in meetings at the county level to facilitate development of County Animal Response Teams (CART) in each county, which will function under the Emergency Management Director (or equivalent title) of that county.
- 10). Participate in exercises to test operating procedures, and will see that all support agencies are included in training and testing functions as appropriate.
- 11). Coordinate meetings as necessary of the State Animal Response Team (SART), a statewide committee made up of representatives of involved agencies or organizations, in which members will discuss their operational response and resolve problems, to ensure coverage of animal needs, and to prevent duplication of effort.
- 12). Oversee coordination of large animal emergency rescue teams, through Clemson University, made up

of volunteers to work with county rescue and fire personnel.

- 13). Coordinate animal disease prevention, surveillance (to include tracking animal movement), diagnostics, and eradication consistent with agency mission.
- 14). Develop plans for the safety and security of livestock and poultry.
- 15). Release information annually on disease and disaster planning and safety for animals through news releases, brochures, websites or other means.
- 16). Develop and maintains maintain a database on locations and contact information for animal premises, including other premises related or supplying these industries.
- 17). Develop and maintains maintain a database of all county agriculture animal emergency plans and a list of all county agriculture animal emergency coordinators.
- 18). Develop and maintains maintain a database of medical and non-medical volunteers and agencies that will provide care assistance.
- 19). Develop and maintain a database of all county agriculture animal emergency plans and a list of all county agriculture animal emergency coordinators.

b. Response

- 1). Provide CULPH staff to SEOC, as requested, alerts ESF-17 support agency responders, notifies all ESF-17 supporting agencies upon activation.
- 2). Coordinate with SART agencies to assess and respond to animal needs in the emergency area, and compile a situation report for the SEOC.
- 3). Relay and delegate assistance requests to proper agency through Operations Tasking Group (OTG), and assures final disposition of tasks assigned. This may include, but is not limited to, providing

emergency transportation, medical care, or shelter and food for animals in need.

- 4). Coordinates activities of support agencies, and gathers pertinent statistics and data for compilation.
- 5). Coordinate large animal emergency rescue team (LART) activation and assignment.
- 6). Coordinate animal disease diagnosis, control, and eradication consistent with agency mission.

c. Recovery

- 1). Coordinate the phase-down of animal emergency services through various support agencies, and within framework of EOC and ESF guidelines.
- 2). Coordinate with counties involved to collect appropriate data on animal services rendered, and to compile such data for a final report.
- 3). Coordinate return to owner or final disposition of unclaimed animals.
- 4). Coordinate animal disease diagnosis, control, and eradication consistent with agency mission.

2. Regulatory and Public Service Programs (RPSP)

a. Preparedness and Mitigation

- 1). Identify, train, and assign personnel to maintain contact with and prepare to conduct operations in support of ESF-17 during periods of activation to staff ESF-17 in the SEOC.
- 2). Develop operating procedures to implement the plant emergency response functions of ESF-17, including a contact list of RPSP and ESF-17 support agency response teams.
- 3). Coordinate detection and identification of diseases, pests and invasive species and toxic substances with state, regional and national laboratories.

- 4). Develop plans for the maintenance of plant health and security, including the response to an outbreak of a highly infective exotic plant disease or an economically devastating plant pest.
- 5). Coordinate with Clemson Extension agents in each county to participate in and provide information for each County Agriculture Response Team (CART).
- 6). Participate in meetings at the county level to facilitate development of County Agriculture Response Teams (CART) in each county, which will function under the Emergency Management Director (or equivalent title of that county).
- 7). Participate in exercises to test operating procedures and ensure that all support agencies are included in training and testing functions as appropriate.
- 8). Coordinate meetings as necessary of the State Plant Response Team (SPRT), a statewide committee composed of representatives of involved agencies or organizations, in which members discuss their operational response, resolve problems and prevent duplication of effort.
- 9). In coordination with ESF-15, Public Information, release information as appropriate with regard to disease and disaster planning and safety of plants/crops.
- 10). Develop and maintain a database of locations and contact information for plant/crop premises, including supporting industries.
- 11). Oversee coordination of plant containment or eradication teams made up of agency personnel and volunteers to work with Emergency Management leadership.

b. Response

- 1). Provide RPSP staff to SEOC, as requested, alert ESF-17 support agency responders and notify all ESF-17 supporting agencies upon activation.

- 2). Provide laboratory services and analysis for plant disease or pest infestations and for agricultural chemicals.
- 3). Coordinate State Plant Response Team [SPRT] agencies to assess and respond to plant needs in the emergency area and compile situation reports. Coordinate activities of support agencies and gather pertinent statistics and data for compilation.
- 4). Relay and delegate assistance requests to proper agency through Operations Tasking Group (OTG) in the SEOC and assure final disposition of tasks assigned.
- 5). Coordinate pest and disease containment, eradication or crop destruction activities.
- 6). Coordinate public service information through Clemson University and the Joint Information Center (JIC) at SCEMD for release.

c. Recovery

- 1). Coordinate phase-down of plant emergency services through the various support agencies within the framework of the EOC and ESF guidelines.
- 2). Coordinate plant disease/pest diagnosis, control, containment or eradication consistent with the agencies mission.
- 3). Coordinate with the counties involved to collect appropriate data on services rendered and compile data for a final report.
- 4). Ensure ESF-17 team members or their agencies maintain appropriate records of costs incurred during the event.

3. Clemson University Cooperative Extension Service

a. Preparedness and Mitigation

- 1). Identify, train, and assign personnel to staff ESF-17 in the SEOC.

- 2). Develop operating procedures to implement Annex-17, including an alerting list of CUCES responders.
- 3). Coordinate with Clemson Extension agents in each county to participate in and provide information for the Animal Emergency Response Committee to be developed in each county.
- 4). Develop and maintains public service announcements for rapid release in the case of threat of emergency.
- 5). Maintain web page for animal emergency information and links.
- 6). Identify, train, and assign personnel to staff ESF-17 in the SEOC.
- 7). Develop operating procedures to implement Annex-17, including alerting the list of CUCES first responders.
- 8). Participate in exercises to test operating procedures.
- 9). Coordinate, participate in, and provide information for the development of each County Agriculture Response Team (CART).
- 10). Develop public service announcements for disaster planning and agricultural safety through news releases, brochures, websites, and other means.

b. Response and Recovery

- 1). Provide CUCES staff to SEOC as requested.
- 2). Coordinate through county extension agents to assess local situation and identify animal emergency coordinator in each county (assigned under the county emergency management director).
- 3). Supply personnel for damage assessment teams, or observation teams, as requested by CULPH.

- 4). Assist in producing and releasing public service information through Clemson University and the Joint Information Center (JIC) at SCEMD or SEOC, for release.
- 5). Assist with livestock relocation.
- 6). Provide CUCES staff to SEOC as requested.
- 7). Coordinate county extension agents to assess the local situation, and supply personnel for damage assessment teams or observation teams as requested by RPSP.
- 8). Assist with containment/eradication efforts.
- 9). Assist RPSP by providing manpower on a local basis to monitor recovery efforts and collect data on damage assessment and ongoing needs and activities in plant agriculture.
- 10). Provide activity and assessment reports to RPSP.
- 11). Ensure team members maintain appropriate records of costs incurred during the event.
- 12). Assist CULPH by providing manpower on a local basis (county extension agents) to monitor recovery efforts and collecting data on damage assessment and ongoing needs and activities of livestock and equine.
- 13). Provide reports to CULPH of activities and assessments.

4. Clemson Experiment Station (CES)

a. Preparedness and Mitigation

- 1). Provide a current level of knowledge about plant disease and pest organisms. Assess their effects upon biological systems, and predict their potential for adverse economic and environmental impacts on SC agriculture.

- 2). Assist in the preparation of action plans and fact sheets for release to appropriate audiences in the event of an agricultural incident.

b. Response and Recovery

- 1). Provide plant technical expertise to the SEOC, supporting agencies, and elsewhere as needed.
- 2). Assist in determining long-term impacts of a terrorist incident.

B. South Carolina Association of Veterinarians

1. Preparedness and Mitigation

- a. Identify, train, and assign personnel to maintain contact with and prepare to execute missions in support of ESF-17 during periods of activation.
- b. Under direction of CULPH, serve as primary contact in coordinating pet care/sheltering activation in emergencies.
- c. Assure that a Veterinary Liaison Officer is designated for each county, such Officer to participate in developing a county animal emergency response plan through county government (county animal emergency response committee).
- d. Develop plans to respond to the outbreak of a highly contagious animal/zoonotic disease.
- e. Provide instructional/educational material to veterinary members to assist them in participation with local animal emergency programs.
- f. Assist SCACCA and CULPH in planning and carrying out volunteer/public education and training programs for animal emergency response.
- g. Maintain web page for animal emergency information.

2. Response

- a. Monitor veterinary medical care status in affected counties and provide status reports through SCAV to ESF-17.



- b. Coordinate requests for animal medical assistance (supplies or veterinary manpower) back to SCAV and ESF-17. Coordinate medical supplies with ESF-18.
  - c. Coordinate with SCACCA to implement pet care/sheltering and assure adequate veterinary medical care in needed areas.
  - d. Assist with public information dissemination of pet care and medical information.
  - e. Provide basic limited medical care for unclaimed animals in emergency temporary shelters in coordination with SCACCA volunteer staffing.
3. Recovery
- a. Continue to provide veterinary medical care.
  - b. Assist CULPH and DHEC in informing public of and carrying out proper public health protection measures.
  - c. Collect morbidity and mortality figures as appropriate.
  - d. Organize and publicize lost and found data to achieve animal/owner reunion. Coordinate final return to owner, long-term maintenance, placement or disposition of animals which cannot be returned to their normal habitat or which have been separated from their owners.
  - e. Ensure team members maintain appropriate records of costs incurred during the event.

C. South Carolina Animal Care and Control Association

1. Preparedness and Mitigation
- a. Identify, train, and assign personnel to maintain contact with and prepare to execute missions in support of ESF-17 during periods of activation. On order, staff ESF-17 in the SEOC.
  - b. Develop operating procedures to implement Annex-17.
  - c. Participate in exercises to test operating procedures.

- d. Under direction of CULPH, serve as secondary contact in pet care/sheltering/rescue activation in emergencies, and will coordinate with SCAV to implement protocols.
- e. Coordinate with appropriate national humane and veterinary organizations to provide broad-based education/training materials to local animal emergency response volunteers.
- f. Provide public service announcements/information throughout the year to encourage individual owner preparedness prior to emergency.
- g. Maintain and update the current "List of Pet-Friendly Hotels and Motels in South Carolina" on an annual basis.
- h. Maintain list of animal services available in each county to include government and non-profit animal shelters.

2. Response

- a. Provide rescue and transportation for pets where necessary.
- b. Provide volunteer coordination to assist in setting up and staffing emergency animal shelters.
- c. Provide current information to assist public in locating animal emergency shelter.
- d. Disseminate public information produced by SCACCA, SCAV, and CULPH for animal emergency response guidance.

3. Recovery

- a. Organize and publicize lost and found data to achieve animal/owner reunion. Coordinate final return to owner, long-term maintenance, placement or disposition of animals which cannot be returned to their normal habitat or which have been separated from their owners.
- b. Assist in phasing down any temporary shelters/holding areas as need diminishes.

- c. Ensure team members maintain appropriate records of costs incurred during the event.

D. Department of Agriculture

1. Preparedness and Mitigation

- a. Identify, train, and assign personnel to maintain contact with and prepare to execute missions in support of ESF-17 during periods of activation. On order, staff ESF-17 in the SEOC.
- b. Develop operating procedures to implement Annex-17.
- c. Participate in exercises to test operating procedures.
- d. Provide public service announcements and information throughout the year to encourage individual preparedness prior to an emergency.
- e. Provide a list of chemicals for which laboratory analyses are available.

2. Response and Recovery

- a. Organize and manage hay and feed donations for large animals in coordination with ESF-18.
- b. Collect samples for livestock hay and feed and perform laboratory tests for contamination and pesticide residue, if required.
- c. Coordinate locating food and arranging for and feeding distressed, disaster impacted, and evacuated animals (including large animal support agencies).
- d. Serve as a response point for livestock and equine related disaster assistance and assists with identification and location of housing and other related services for livestock. Coordinate with other large animal support agencies.
- e. Provide consultation and coordinate response on plant, seed, pesticide issues and animal issues which impact public or animal health (disease outbreak, bioterrorist attack, waste and carcass disposal).

- f. Provide laboratory services for toxic substance incidents.
- g. Collect samples of forage crops and perform laboratory analyses for contamination and pesticide residue, if required.
- h. Ensure ESF-17 team members maintain appropriate records of costs incurred during the event.
- i. Provide activity and assessment reports to RPSP.

E. Department of Health and Environmental Control

1. Preparedness and Mitigation

- a. Identify, train, and assign personnel to maintain contact with and prepare to execute missions in support of ESF-17 during periods of activation. On order, staff ESF-17 in the SEOC.
- b. Provide public health guidelines.

2. Response and Recovery

- a. Provide consultation and coordinate response on animal issues which impact public or animal health (disease outbreak, bioterrorist attack, waste and carcass disposal).
- b. Coordinate public service information with ESF-17 and the Joint Information Center (JIC) at SCEMD for release.
- c. Ensure team members maintain appropriate records of costs incurred during the event.
- d. The South Carolina Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners, in coordination with DHEC, will arrange to secure temporary licensing for emergency veterinarians invited from out of state to assist in disaster response.
  - 1). Office of Public Health Preparedness: Coordinate DHEC animal emergency response activities.
  - 2). Disease Control: Provide epidemiology and public health support.

- 3). Environmental Quality Control - Waste Management: Provide agricultural waste and carcass disposal support.
- 4). Environmental Health:
  - a). Provide vector control and sanitation support.
  - b). Provide dairy product and producer support, and sampling.

F. Department of Natural Resources, Wildlife and Fresh Water Fisheries

1. Preparedness and Mitigation

- a. Identify, train, and assign personnel to maintain contact with and prepare to execute missions in support of ESF-17 during periods of activation. On order, staff ESF-17 in the SEOC.
- b. Develop plans to respond to the outbreak of a highly contagious zoonotic wildlife disease.
- c. Develop operating procedures to implement Annex-17.
- d. Participate in exercises to test operating procedures.
- e. Develop emergency response plans for native plant resources under SCDNR jurisdiction, including rare, threatened, and endangered plant species.
- f. Develop and coordinate action plans for aquatic invasive species of both national and jurisdictional significance.

2. Response and Recovery

- a. Provide native wildlife support within agency policy and statutory guidelines.
- b. Provide consultation and coordinate response on animal issues which impact public or animal health (disease outbreak, bioterrorist attack, waste and carcass disposal).
- c. Provide limited assistance, if available, to coordinate zoo/exotic situations.

- d. Provide transportation and equipment, if available.
- e. Provide personnel and equipment to implement plans to restore aquatic habitats impacted by invasive species and also conduct animal depopulation operations.
- f. Assist in the development and releasing public service information concerning threats to natural resources through ESF-17 and the Joint Information Center (JIC) at SCEMD for release.
- g. Provide DNR staff to SEOC as requested.
- h. Assist in producing and releasing situation reports covering natural resource areas.
- i. Develop or revise forest stewardship management plans for impacted forest areas.
- j. Provide activity and assessment reports to RPSP.
- k. Ensure team members maintain appropriate records of costs incurred during the event.
- l. Coordinate with ESF-17 long term maintenance, placement or disposition of wildlife which cannot be returned to their normal habitat.

G. South Carolina Forestry Commission

- 1. Preparedness and Mitigation
  - a. Identify, train, and assign personnel to staff ESF-17 in the SEOC.
  - b. Develop operating procedures to implement Annex-17.
  - c. Coordinate with the CUCES in providing first responder training for the forestry industry.
  - d. Participate in exercises to test operating procedures.
  - e. Prepare forest disaster plans to address the salvage, harvesting, and marketing of forest products damaged by pests or diseases

- f. Identify and provide lists of volunteers from private organizations to be trained as first responders.
- g. Assist RPSP in the development of lists of forestry diseases and pests of national and jurisdictional significance.
- h. Develop public service announcements for forestry disaster planning and safety.

2. Response and Recovery

- a. Provide staff to SEOC as requested.
- b. Provide consultation on forestry issues.
- c. Provide, where possible, for the systematic salvage of all forest products damaged by disease and pests.
- d. Compile data on losses, cost of containment including volunteer time and donated use of equipment and supplies and prepare a summary report.
- e. Ensure team members maintain appropriate records of costs incurred during the event.
- f. Provide reports of activities and assessments to CULPH and RPSP upon request.

H. SC Nursery and Landscape Association (SCNLA)

1. Preparedness and Mitigation

- a. Identify, train, and assign personnel to contact and to execute missions in support of ESF-17 during periods of activation. Upon request, staff ESF-17 in the SEOC.
- b. Develop operating procedures to implement Annex-17.
- c. Participate in exercises to test operating procedures.
- d. Under direction of RPSP, serve as secondary contact in emergencies involving ornamental plants and turf.

- e. Assist in distributing public service announcements and information throughout the year to encourage industry preparedness prior to the emergency.
  - 2. Response and Recovery
    - a. Provide consultation and coordinate response on issues that affect the nursery, turf, and ornamental industry.
    - b. Collect economic impact figures as appropriate and provide reports to RPSP.
    - c. Encourage team members to maintain appropriate records of costs incurred during the event.
- I. South Carolina Certified Crop Advisors (CCA)
- 1. Preparedness and Mitigation
    - a. Identify, train, and assign personnel to contact and to execute missions in support of ESF-17 during periods of activation. Upon request, staff ESF-17 in the SEOC.
    - b. Develop operating procedures to implement Annex-17.
    - c. Participate in exercises to test operating procedures.
  - 2. Response and Recovery
    - a. Provide technical assistance, labor and access to local resources in execution of specific Action Plans during a plant or natural resource emergency.
    - b. Encourage team members to maintain appropriate records of costs incurred during the event.

## VI. FEDERAL INTERFACE

This annex has no direct counterpart in the National Response Plan. However, Federal ESF-11 (Agriculture and Natural Resources) functions include Animal and Plant Disease/Pest Response. This response includes the implementation of an integrated federal, state, and local response to an outbreak of a highly contagious animal/zoonotic disease, an outbreak of a highly infective exotic plant disease, or an economically devastating plant pest infestation. Further, Federal ESF-8 (Public Health and Medical Services) is responsible for agriculture safety and security, and the protection of animal health under the National Response



Plan. Agriculture safety and security includes the safety and security of food producing animals, animal feed and therapeutics. Protection of animal health includes ensuring the safety of the manufacture and distribution of foods and drugs given to livestock and companion animals.

State ESF-17 will coordinate with Federal ESF-11 for issues involving animal and plant disease/pest response and Federal ESF-8 concerning agriculture safety and security, and the protection of animal health. State ESF-17 will coordinate with federal/national organizations to obtain federal assistance when required.

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